

## **FACILITATING MULTI-SECTORAL COLLABORATION BY HIGHLIGHTING THE SYNERGY BETWEEN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HEALTH PROMOTING COMMUNITY PROGRAMME AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.**

*(Organised by the Directorate of Health, the Health Promoting Community (HPC) - at least eight policy dialogue meetings were held throughout 2018)*

### **BACKGROUND**

The HPC program is run by the Directorate of Health in Iceland (DOHI). It has been in a developmental phase over the last few years. As part of its participation in C+ WP5, DOHI has among other things committed to the implementation of selected elements of the Dutch JOGG program to strengthen the HPC work at the local level (see the Pilot action plan for further information). But other, identified improvement area was the need to further establish cross-sectoral collaboration of key decision makers and other stakeholders at national level. That should among other things improve the quality and elevate the status of the HPC work.

The HPC program is already embedded in national policy documents like the Public health policy and action plan for health promoting community (2016-2030), in which one of the policies main goals is that all municipalities should become Health promoting communities. At the same time all UN countries, including Iceland, have committed to the implementation the SDGs and need to report back their progress to the UN. The SDG agenda is therefore a great window of opportunity to approach ministries and other high level policy and decision makers in order to work together towards common goals.

### **OBJECTIVES**

Establish multi-sectoral collaboration of key stakeholders for the HPC program at the national level by identifying and highlighting the synergy between the implementation of the Health promoting community program and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

### **CONCLUSIONS AND MAIN ACTION POINTS**

Aligning the Health promoting community work with the SDG agenda, offering support and solutions regarding implementation of the goals has over time, via numerous steps, resulted in involvement of the Prime minister's office in the HPC work. That involvement further helped to attract other, high level stakeholders to the table, elevating the status of the HPC program and most importantly, has contributed to its quality and overall sustainability. The HPC high level steering group was established in autumn '18. The HPC and SDGs consultation platform was established at the same time.

#### **Main Action Points:**

- Frame the HPC program work line with the SDGs and in general main governmental issues.
- Establish the national HPC high level steering group, prioritizing the involvement of the Prime minister's office and the Association of Local governments.
- Establish the Consultation platform for HPC and the SDGs, prioritizing the participation wide range of national level stakeholders.
- Develop monitoring of the SDGs at local level via the HPC on-line working area.